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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 20 | Humidity 71% Scattered Showers Sensex 65,780 | Nifty 19,574 | Gold 59,362 | Silver 74,121 | Dollar 83.01 | Euro 89.20 | GBP 104.42

Around 20 subways in city remain shut, some even in bustling areas, raising a question on where the pedestrian figures in policy-makers' priority list

LOCK THE SUBWAY & THROW AWAY THE KEY

BBMP cites reasons such as bad odour, staff crunch, misuse for closure

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Navigating Bengaluru's streets on foot remains a hazardous endeavour, prompting a growing clamour for improved pedestrian infrastructure such as skywalks and underpasses. Paradoxically, though many of the constructed skywalks are underutilised and many of the pedestrian subways are locked, barring public access.

Presently, approximately 20 pedestrian subways across the city are locked, forcing pedestrians to cross the road with their lives in their hands.

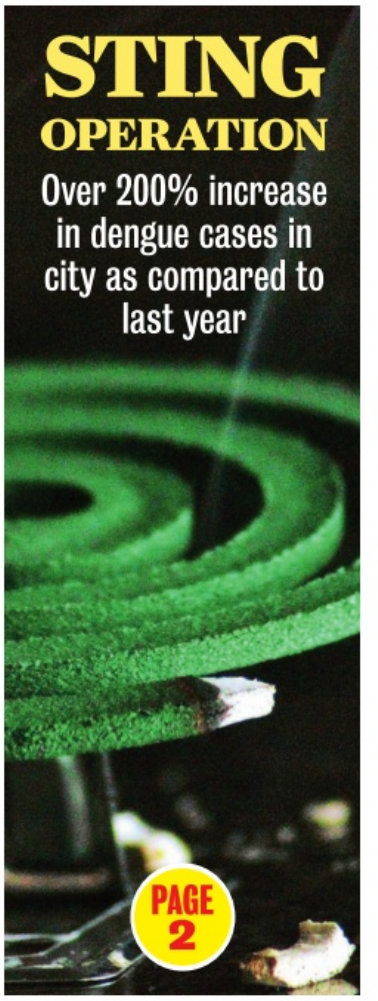
BBMP officials justify the closure of these subways citing issues of bad odour, illicit activities, and misuse as reasons for the shutdown. Strikingly, some central areas like Raj Bhavan Road, Basaveshwara Circle, and Ambedkar Road also have witnessed the shuttering of subways.

Consequently, pedestrians traversing these bustling roads are confronted with formidable challenges.

Balakrishna, Assistant Executive Engineer of BBMP, explains, "A few pedestrian subways had to be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

PIC: KAUSHIK JN



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3 THINGS TO DO

01 Bhangra fun

If you love the beats of Bhangra, then don't miss the chance to learn a new dance or strengthen your skills. Bhangra is a dance form with humble rural beginnings and is now recognised on a global level, not only due to its cultural essence but also due to its fitness benefits.
Where: Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar
When: Sunday, September 10; 12-2 pm

02 Lakeside event

One of the most loved malls in the city, Orion, is all set to host the 61st Bangalore Ganesha Utsav, featuring a 5-day lakeside concert with performances by popular artists. Don't miss the chance to watch three-time Grammy winner Ricky Kej, AGAM Band, Nakul Abhyankar, Varijashree Venugopal and troupe, DJ Jasmeet and Beat Gurus.
Where: Lakeside Orion Mall, Brigade Gateway
When: September 6 to 10; 6:30 pm onwards

03 Creative acts

Mitra Habba is all set to promote awareness, understanding, and acceptance of neurodiversity. The event brings together both the neurodivergent and neurotypical communities. You can also explore flea markets, participate in panel discussions, enjoy interactive music, dance, art, rhythm workshops, delicious food, and more engaging activities with your kids and family.
Where: Bangalore International Centre, Domlur
When: September 9; 10 am to 6 pm

Dengue on the radar

City sees 226.35 per cent increase in dengue cases; experts say it is BBMP's responsibility to track areas where dengue patients are reported

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Beds in several hospitals are rapidly filling up with dengue patients as the city grapples with a surge in vector-borne diseases. Shockingly, statistics reveal a 226.35% increase in dengue cases this year compared to the previous year. In 2022, there was a substantial surge in dengue cases compared to the preceding year, 2021. The reported dengue cases in 2021 (up to the first week of September) stood at 520 but soared dramatically to 1,058 cases in 2022. This signifies a staggering increase of 103.46% in dengue cases from the previous year.

However, as we move into 2023, the dengue situation has taken an even more alarming turn. In 2023, the reported dengue cases skyrocketed to 3,454, significantly surpassing the 2022 count of 1,058 cases. This upswing from 2022 to 2023 represents a substantial increase of approximately 226.35%. The sharp spike in dengue cases between 2022 and 2023 underscores the urgency of implementing disease prevention and control measures to safeguard public health and mitigate the impact on affected communities.

A doctor in a private hospital expressed concern, stating, "During the covid-19 pandemic, we witnessed hospitals filling up rapidly with patients. Now, however, we are observing a surge in dengue cases. As platelet counts drop and additional symptoms manifest, doctors are recommending hospital admission to prevent the risk of severe complications. The rising number of dengue cases across the city underscores the severity of the situation, emphasising the critical need for the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to take prompt and effective measures."

In 2023, the reported dengue cases skyrocketed to 3,454, significantly surpassing the 2022 count of 1,058 cases

Take action now

- Stay informed: Keep yourself informed about dengue prevention and symptoms through local health authorities and reliable sources.
- Personal protection: Use mosquito repellents, wear long sleeves and pants, and use bed nets to reduce your risk of mosquito bites.
- Community Engagement: Participate in community efforts to detect and eliminate mosquito breeding sites. Report potential breeding areas to local authorities.
- Environmental management: Properly cover stored water containers, ensure reliable water supply, and observe weekly dry days to prevent mosquito breeding.
- Health Education: Spread knowledge about dengue and its prevention through various media sources like TV, radio, and social media.
- Vector Control: Support efforts to control mosquito populations through larvivorous fish, biocides, and chemical larvicides.

They added that during the covid-19 pandemic, patient tracking was crucial in curbing the spread of the disease. Similarly, in the case of dengue, it is the BBMP's responsibility to track areas where dengue patients are reported. Officials must ensure cleanliness, conduct fumigation, and raise awareness to prevent further dengue spread.

Tracing the historical context of dengue, the Lancet report explains, "In the 1950s and 1960s, the disease was confined to a few Southeast Asian countries. However, regional and global dengue epidemics emerged in the 1970s and continued to spread over the next two decades. By 2012–13, the landscape of dengue incidence in India had undergone a radical transformation. Dengue has now become an annual epidemic in many parts of Southeast Asia and poses an increasingly significant threat as the environment evolves. Interestingly, when the covid-19 wave hit India in 2020, dengue incidence decreased by 56–60%."

However, BBMP claims that it has undertaken significant measures to combat dengue. BBMP Special Commissioner Dr KV Thrilok Chandra stated, "We have implemented comprehensive steps. The reported dengue numbers have risen in the data because we now collect information from private hospitals in addition to government hospitals, where data collection was previously limited. Currently, we are conducting dengue awareness campaigns throughout the city, leveraging the services of medical professionals to create awareness and curb the dengue spread."

Graphic skills: B'lurean reigns supreme

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In a remarkable journey marked by unwavering dedication and a profound passion for art and design, 22-year-old Steven Harris, a resident of Banashankari, 2nd Stage, has achieved significant milestones on the global and national stage. From the prestigious Medallion of Excellence at the WorldSkills Competition 2022 in Aarau, Switzerland, to the Indian Achievers' Young Genius Award at the 64th National Indian Achievers' Awards, Steven's journey has been nothing short of extraordinary.

As a child, Steven was deeply interested in art. He recalls that he began drawing and painting at the age of two, and from that point onward, he never stopped. His mother, Dhanalakshmi, who is a single parent, made sure to encourage her son in the field in which he showed remarkable talent. With art being his prominent passion, he dedicated himself to honing his skills. He participated in state-level and national-level drawing and painting competitions in schools, earning numerous medals along the way.

With a creative mind and a strong interest in graphic design, Steven joined the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) and graduated from the college this year in Bengaluru. Just last year, in October, Harris represented India at the WorldSkills Olympics Championship Special Edition 2022 for Graphic Design Technology and clinched the prestigious Medallion for Excellence Award in Switzerland. This triumph was not isolated; Steven also secured the Silver Medal at the Eurasia Skills Championship in Russia and another Medallion for Excellence at the Global Skills Challenge in Australia. In total, he has proudly won three medals for his country.

Steven said, "After competing at various levels in the IndiaSkills Competition, undergoing rigorous training for two years in Pune to compete in the WorldSkills Championship, and participating in multiple selection rounds across the country, I was selected by the Government of India to represent the country as part of Team India. I competed alongside representatives from 24 nations in the graphic design technology category at the WorldSkills Competition 2022, and I brought home three medals."

The WorldSkills Competition is considered the largest skill competition globally and is held once every two years in one of the WSI countries.

Driven by controversy

Retired judge accused of flaunting government emblem on private vehicle

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Name board and Karnataka State emblem on retired judge's private owned vehicle raises questions about judicial conduct on the road

While retired judges are typically held in high regard as exemplars of legal integrity, an unusual case in Karnataka raises questions about judicial conduct on the road. Patil Nagalinganagowda, a former judge now serving as a judicial member of the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Special Court, stands accused of flouting traffic regulations by adorning his private vehicle, with the name board and emblem of the Karnataka Government.

It is important to note that this vehicle is his private one and not provided by the state government or the judicial department. While the government is believed to have allocated a vehicle to the honourable retired judge Patil Nagalinganagowda, he has chosen to use his vehicle instead.

When contacted, Patil Nagalinganagowda said that he had removed the name board and State Government emblem from the number plate of the vehicle. He said, "My driver has displayed the name board and State Government emblem on the number plate of the vehicle. It happened by mistake and the name board and emblem of Karnataka State were removed from the number plate of the vehicle."

On September 4, social activist MN Venugopal complained about

Patil Nagalinganagowda with Halasuru Gate Police. Consequently, the police have registered a Non-Cognizable Report (NCR) against Patil Nagalinganagowda.

Commenting on the situation, Venugopal said, "I received phone calls from the police station and Patil Nagalinganagowda asking me to withdraw my complaint. How can a retired judge display his name board and emblem of the Karnataka Government on his private vehicle? I do not want to withdraw my complaint."

Meanwhile, HM Venkatesh, a social activist from Judicial Layout, has submitted a request to the Karnataka Road Transport Department to provide information about the vehicle. He seeks clarification on whether this vehicle belongs to the state government or is privately owned. Additionally, he is inquiring whether the Road Transport Office had authorised Patil Nagalinganagowda to display the name board and emblem of the Karnataka Government on this vehicle.

In response, the Karnataka Road Transport Office clarified that the vehicle is a private vehicle registered with the Koramangala Regional Transport Office on April 27, 2021. Furthermore, it stated that no permission was granted to Patil Nagalinganagowda to display the name board and emblem of Karnataka on his private vehicle.

Expressing his shock at the situation, HM Venkatesh remarked, "It is quite shocking to see a retired judge and judicial member of the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Special Court displaying the name board and emblem of Karnataka Government. The judge is supposed to be a role model for others. I do not know how such a person is appointed as a judicial member of the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Special Court. I want the government to take suitable action against him. I have written a letter to the State Chief Secretary in this regard."

> **My driver has displayed the name board and State Government emblem on the number plate of the vehicle by mistake**– Patil Nagalinganagowda

It is worth noting that the State Government prohibited the illegal display of emblems on vehicles in May 2022 to end the inappropriate use of State Government emblems on vehicle number plates.

MDMA and heroin seized in police raids

In a series of separate investigations, the city police apprehended five individuals involved in the illicit trade of MDMA and heroin. The Govindraj Nagar Police took Abdul Salam into custody and seized 55 grams of MDMA valued at Rs 1.5 lakh, leading to the filing of a case at the Govindraj Nagar police station.

allesh, Nemichend Nemsa, Prakash, and Prema Ram, residents of Devanahalli originally from Rajasthan, were detained by the Kodigehalli police. Near Bhadrappa Layout, close to Hebbal, the four accused were attempting to sell heroin. The police seized the vehicle along with 61 grams of the substance.

Meanwhile,the Central Crime Branch (CCB) police detained a Nigerian woman and seized 400 grams of MDMA valued at Rs 20 lakh. The suspect, identified as Adevole Adettu Zara, 33, operated under the alias Aisha in the city. —BMB

ED seizes ₹105.5 crore in bank fraud case

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) provisionally attached properties worth Rs 105.5 crores belonging to Bharath Infra Exports and Imports Ltd and others in a bank fraud case, stated a release on Monday.

The attached immovable and movable properties include residential sites, commercial properties and a farmhouse located in Bengaluru worth Rs 104.90 Crores, and seized cash worth Rs 14.5 lakhs.

Earlier, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Bank Securities Fraud branch, Bangalore, registered a FIR against M/s Bharath Infra Exports-Import Pvt Ltd and its promoters/directors, under various sections of IPC, 1860 and Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, alleging that the company was engaged in the trade of construction materials and availed cash credit limits from the State Bank of India. — ANI

Phone thieves beware: Karnataka's top recovery game

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Karnataka's police are leading in the recovery of stolen mobile phones. According to the latest statistics, Karnataka has recovered an impressive 10,605 phones, securing the top position. Telangana follows in second place with 6,573 recovered phones, while Maharashtra ranks third with 5,261 phones reclaimed. Despite this achievement, there remains substantial room for improvement, as only 9.3% of stolen mobile phones have been successfully recovered. Out of a total of 112,844 reported and blocked mobile phones, 18,073 have been traced and returned to their owners, according to Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) data.

An official stated, "On average, 40 mobile phones are lost in Bengaluru City. Many people lose their mobile phones while holding them in their hands while walking, cycling, travelling, or talking." Nationwide, a total of 7, 88,663 mobiles were blocked, and 3, 11,186 have been traced.

Know Your Mobile

To address this concern, there is a reliable solution called Know Your Mobile (KYM) that allows users to verify the status of a mobile device even before making a purchase. The unique identifier for each device is the IMEI number. KYM provides three convenient methods to check the IMEI number:
Dial *#06# on your mobile device: By dialling this code, the IMEI number will be displayed on your mobile screen. This method is ideal for those who have already purchased a mobile device and want to verify its authenticity.
Send an SMS with the message "KYM <15-digit IMEI number>" to 14422 from your mobile device.

The Department of Telecommunications introduced CEIR with the aim of tracing lost or stolen mobile devices by enabling the blocking of such devices on the networks of all telecom operators in India. An official explained, "One of the key features of CEIR is its traceability mechanism, which generates a trace whenever a blocked mobile phone is attempted to be used. This ensures that attempts to misuse blocked devices are quickly identified, and appropriate action can be taken. Once a lost or stolen mobile phone is recovered, citizens can unblock the device through the portal, restoring its normal functionality."

When individuals lose their mobile phones, it is crucial for them to block the International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) of their lost or stolen devices. The Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) offers multiple methods for users to block their phone's IMEI.

"One method is through online form submission. Users can visit the CEIR website and submit a blocking request by filling out a designated form. This process involves reporting the incident to the police, obtaining a duplicate SIM card for the lost number, and providing necessary documents such as a copy of the police report and identity proof. Once the request is successfully submitted, users receive a unique Request ID, which they can use to track the request's status and future IMEI unblocking. Another option available is seeking assistance from the state police. Users can approach the state police for help in blocking the IMEI of their device.

GREEN SHOOTS

Eco-friendly run sets waste-free example

City's environmentalists organising events that leave behind no waste

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In a world where waste seems inevitable at every celebration and gathering, a remarkable group of environmentalists in the city is rewriting the rules. They are organising events that leave behind no waste, even challenging the excesses of political and religious functions.

In a recent event, Runaddicts, a non-profit organisation, hosted its fifth annual run in RR Nagar, drawing participation from approximately 3,000 individuals on September 3. What sets this event apart is its commitment to sustainability, as organisers provided breakfast without generating any waste typically associated with such gatherings. Instead of plastic bottles, cups, or palm-leaf plates, they opted for eco-friendly alternatives like steel plates, tumblers, and spoons.

Veena Rajappa, a core member of Runaddicts, said, "As Runaddicts, we are extremely passionate about environmental sustainability. We always ensure that we leave our trails clean and green. There is no use of any disposables at the hydration stations or at the breakfast counters. Runaddicts has followed this year after year for each of its events, and we are very proud to organise such unprecedented green running events at scale, a model worthy of replicating at any event."

Speaking with Bangalore Mirror, Mohan Devegowda of Runaddicts explained that volunteers help organise their events. "We have around 50 volunteers. They collect cutlery from the cutlery bank maintained by Adamya Chetana. They return the cutlery to Adamya Chetana after the event. We have been organising events since 2016.

Runaddicts, hosted its fifth annual run in RR Nagar and provided breakfast without generating any waste, using eco-friendly alternatives like steel plates, tumblers, and spoons instead of regular plastic options

We encourage people not to use plastic. Our aim is to ensure our events have zero waste," said Mohan Devegowda.

Meanwhile, environmentalists and BBMP authorities have appreciated Runaddicts for generating no waste during their events. Shobha Bhat of the Usiru Foundation pointed out that most events, regardless of their size and scale, produce a considerable amount of single-use plastics, paper cups, water bottles, and more, and segregation is often overlooked. She called for the BBMP to implement zero-waste guidelines for all events organised in the city.

> **"We have been organising events since 2016. We encourage people not to use plastic and ensure our events have zero waste** – Mohan Devegowda

N S Ramakanth of Solid Waste Management Roundtable praised Veena Rajappa and other volunteers for organising events without generating waste, mentioning that Veena and her father have promoted waste segregation at source.

A BBMP assistant executive engineer expressed support for events that generate zero waste.

Panathur: Thriving eco-conscious community

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Despite Panathur's reputation for traffic congestion and poor road conditions, a dedicated community of residents is working to turn it into a thriving hub for eco-conscious living. They have embraced composting as a means to create a greener environment, with remarkable success. In just a year, this initiative has enriched over 4,000 plants with nutrient-packed compost.

Kitty Raj, a resident of Panathur who initiated the effort, shared that he witnessed the positive impact of using compost on some of his plants. "The plants started to grow well and healthy, and the compost

Panathur successfully embraced composting as a means to create greener environment

was very effective. It helps enrich the soil. While many people water the plants for growth, composting is also a great method to provide plants with all the necessary nutrients." Highlighting the advantages, Raj stated that the nutrient-rich concoction enhances soil fertility and structure, facilitating better water retention and nutrient absorption for plants. It also acts as a natural pest repellent, reducing the need for harmful chemical pesticides.

After the waste is processed in the biogas plant, the resulting compost is left to dry for about a week before being used for the plants.

> **"The plants started to grow well and healthy, the compost was very effective. It helps enrich the soil**
> – Kitty Raj, Resident

"Initially, we started the initiative by applying compost once a month. However, after a while, we noticed that the plants were growing better, so we started using it every 15 days. It enriches the soil with essential nutrients like nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, creating an ideal environment for plant growth and promoting healthier root systems," added Raj.

Over 3-4 tons of compost are produced from the biogas plant, with over 2 tons used for the plants every 15 days. The remaining compost is provided to local farmers, enabling them to sell it for profit in apartment complexes.

Additionally, residents have collectively planted around 15,000 plants in the localities of Panathur, Kadubeesanahalli, and Gunjur.

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Sidewalk parking

Chamrajpet

Chamarajpet, 2nd Main Road across from Janatha School, has been witnessing the parking of cars and tempos on the sidewalk for the past three months.

Fee discrepancy

Hoodi

Hoodi Bus Stop has reported an issue where an individual is charged Rs 10 for rest room usage, despite the list indicating a fee of Rs 5 for the BBMP toilet facilities.

Safety concern

Langford

A hazardous situation exists on the footpath near Pizza Hut, across from Global Tech Park, at the junction of O'Shaughnessy Road and Cornwell Road, near the Hockey Stadium in Langford Town.

Commuters struggle to solve road-puddle puzzle

Croma Road gets flooded each time it rains with water level going to up to 6 feet sometimes, creating a massive traffic bottleneck

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PIC: KAUSHIK JN

Top: Umbrellas were out of the second consecutive day in Bengaluru on Tuesday; Above: Traffic piles up at water-logged Croma Road

Commuters have once again demanded the municipal body Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) fix the issue of Croma Road being flooded even after slight showers of rain, as it is the only other alternative to those who choose not to travel through the infamous Panathur railway underbridge (RUB).

Abhijit Lodh, a resident of Panathur, said that the Croma Road has been closed for use as it has been flooded due to the recent rains. Laid in Balagere during 2019, the Croma Road is prone to flooding as it is on a tertiary rajakaluve. However, it is often preferred by commuters who travel from Balagere as the particular route covers the shortest distance to reach Outer Ring Road (ORR).

Lodh noted that since the road is closed for use, all the traffic is diverted towards the Panathur RUB, creating a gridlock at the spot.

"Every commuter coming from Varthur, Balagere, and Panathur has to take the RUB since there is no other alternative. It takes over two hours just to pass through the main Panathur RUB," he explained.

Even small showers of rain lead to the accumulation of water close to six feet on Croma Road, while the RUB also forms puddles that make it tougher for four-wheelers to manoeuvre, he informed.

In May 2022, Shyam Singh, Bengaluru divisional railway officer, said that the widening of the Panathur railway underbridge with two new vents would be finished by March 2023. However, only one vent linking Panathur and Kadubeesanahalli has been finished, while the other one is yet to see the light of day.

> **"Every commuter coming from Varthur, Balagere, and Panathur has to take the RUB since there is no other alternative. It takes over two hours just to pass through the main Panathur RUB**
>
> –Abhijit Lodh, a resident of Panathur

Furthermore, Lodh said that the second vent has not been opened to the public due to issues with regard to land acquisition. "The authorities are currently diverting all the excess water that accumulates in the Panathur RUB when it rains to the newly built second vent. Until the land acquisition is complete, the new vent will prove to be useless. There is an urgent need for the vent to be opened for use as it would segregate the traffic and provide another pathway for movement," he explained, adding that the departments involved must fast-track the process and complete the remaining work on the project or come up with other alternatives.

Residents of Varthur have been requesting for the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) to introduce mini-bus services connecting Balagere to the Outer Ring Road (ORR), Kadubisanahalli, Whitefield, and ITPL during peak hours as an alternative to reduce traffic congestion in the area.

Manish, another resident of the area, said despite follow-ups with various departments regarding the issue, there has been no progress. "The issue has been called out on social media, but local leaders turn up only when there is heavy flooding. They make many promises but have failed to fulfil them," he added.

Suicide watch: Cops trained to help those in distress

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The National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) has come out with various programmes as part of the World Suicide Prevention Day 2023 aimed at creating awareness and enhancing suicide prevention and control measures. One standout initiative involves training police officers in essential suicide prevention techniques, bolstering the community's safety net.

According to the mental health professionals at NIMHANS, as police officers are the first-hand responders during crucial situations, they can help many in distress by communicating and understanding their situation.

Over 88 police officers were part of the training. At Ramanagara, community-based suicide prevention programmes, along with panchayats, schools, and colleges, are being carried out by NIMHANS, and with this, even police officials were trained. The training will help foster a more compassionate and supportive society.

Dr Anish V Cherian, an associate professor in the Department of Psychiatric Social Work at NIMHANS, said, "By educating officers, we're ensuring they can respond to crises with empathy and expertise. Together, we can be a beacon of support for those in need."

According to a National Crime Report Bureau (NCRB) report for 2021, Karnataka reported 13,056 suicides in the said period, a 6.5% increase from the year 2020, which accounts for 8% of the total suicides in India, and the rate of suicide in Karnataka is at 19.5%, which is higher than the national average of 12%.

Dr Cherian noted that police officers are often the first responders in cases of suicide attempts or distress calls. With proper training, they can recognise the signs of distress and suicidal tendencies more effectively. This allows for immediate intervention, potentially saving lives.

Apart from this, suicide is often shrouded in stigma, hindering individuals from seeking help. The trained approach in such situations with empathy will help to reduce the stigma associated with mental health issues. This encourages individuals to open up about their struggles.

Dr Cherian added, 'Training officers can also help in guiding individuals in crisis to refer to appropriate professionals or institutions, ensuring they receive the help they need."

SSLC, II PUC exam: From 2023-24, students to get best of three attempts

Karnataka has decided to bring about changes in the SSLC (class 10) and II PUC (class 12) examination system from the academic year 2023-24, under which a student will get to retain the best marks from three attempts.

The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) on Tuesday said the revised examination system will rename "supplementary examination" as "annual examination 1, 2, and 3", providing three opportunities to the students, as it takes into consideration the varying pace of learning among students.

"If we adopt the revised examination system, it will provide an opportunity to improve the score by retaining the best marks scored in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd examinations and provide better opportunities in the selection process for further study or employment," KSEAB said in a release.

Pointing out that students' learning pace and style are different, and conducting exams 1, 2 and 3 can help them adapt to their learning pace and reduce the stress caused by time constraints, it said, "by renaming supplementary examination as annual examination 1, 2, and 3, three opportunities can be provided to the students which will promote their overall performance and positive attitude." **PTI**

WALK-IN INTERVIEW

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New govt, new moves: Will 8 universities face the axe?

Sources indicate government is thinking of cancelling permissions granted earlier

| Sridhar Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMirror

After announcing plans to scrap the National Education Policy (NEP) for the next academic year, the Congress-led State Government is now considering another move to undo the decisions of the previous BJP government. Sources indicate that the government is contemplating the cancellation of earlier permissions granted to establish eight new universities.

Last November, the Basavaraj S Bommai government had declared its intention to establish a university in every district. However, the Siddaramaiah Government believes that this decision, made last November, lacks rationale and was driven by self-interest. This implies that the universities proposed for Chamarajanagar, Kodagu, Hassan, Koppal, Bidar, Haveri, Bagalkot, and Mandya may not come to fruition.

Around 171 educationists had applied for the positions of vice-chancellors in these proposed universities. An official commented, "The universities should have their own significance, infrastructure, and research centres. Merely announcing new universities for political gains will not serve any purpose. Although the state government announced new universities, no grants were released.

Government is contemplating the cancellation of earlier permissions granted to establish eight new universities

> **We have decided to assign the scanning work to DTP operators. We plan to issue tenders for scanning work in the future** – C Srinivas BU Registrar

This amounted to nothing more than a mockery of university education." However, when contacted, Higher Education Minister Dr MC Sudhakar stated, "CM Siddaramaiah held discussions with education officials and university vice-chancellors on the need for new varsities. As of now, no decision has been taken yet."

No outsourcing

In the meantime, Bangalore University has opted not to outsource scanning but to undertake the digitisation of answer scripts using university staff exclusively. In response to alleged discrepancies, the university has decided to amend its regulations.

Bangalore University registrar (evaluation) C Srinivas stated, "We have chosen not to outsource the scanning work. We have decided to assign the scanning work to DTP operators. We plan to issue tenders for scanning work in the future."

Answer at home

Bangalore Mirror recently reported that 41 answer scripts from the fifth semester BBA course were taken home by former students for "answering at home." These scripts were then filled with answers and subsequently returned to the exam hall for evaluation. The university filed a police complaint, mentioning the alleged involvement of a few contract workers in this matter, and further investigations are underway.

The modus operandi behind this incident involved deliberately leaving 41 answer scripts blank during the exam. These scripts were surreptitiously taken to an undisclosed location, where proficient students gave the answers. Then, the scripts were returned to the exam hall and subjected to scanning. It has been reported that some of the contract staff suspected of involvement in this fraudulent activity are currently evading authorities.

Human-elephant conflict claims 148 lives over 5 years

₹500 crore sought from CM to construct railway barricades to prevent elephants from venturing out of forest areas

Karnataka has witnessed a high rise in human deaths due to human-elephant conflict in Karnataka has been increasing in recent years. According to data released by the Forest, Ecology, and Environment Department of Karnataka, 148 people have been killed in such incidents over the last five years.

While 13 deaths were recorded between April 2018 and March 2019, this number went up to 30 in 2019-20. In 2020-21, 26 deaths were recorded, followed by 28 deaths in 2021-22, 30 deaths in 2022-23, and 21 human deaths between April 2023 and September 3, 2023.

Forest, Ecology, and Environment Minister Ishwar B Khandre disclosed these numbers at a meeting with the officials held on Tuesday in the wake of increasing incidents of wildlife and human conflict in the state. The Chief Minister expressed concern over the numbers. Giving details of human-wildlife conflict cases, the Minister said that since April 1, 2023, 22 lives have been lost due to elephant attacks, two deaths have been reported due to bear attacks, one death due to tiger attacks, two deaths due to leopard attacks and one person died due to wild boar attacks.

File photo of a herd of wild elephants in a village in Mysuru

He further informed that the department has requested the Chief Minister for a grant of Rs 500 crore to prevent wildlife-human conflict in Karnataka. He said the fund is needed for the construction of about 640 km of rail barricades to avoid conflict cases in the state. Currently, 312 kilometres of rail barricades exist in Karnataka and the construction cost of this barricade per kilometre is about Rs 1.50 crore.

"In the last 15 days, 11 people have been killed in human-wildlife conflict and it is imperative to take necessary and urgent action to avoid loss of precious lives. We have requested the Chief Minister for a grant of Rs 500 crore for the construction of railway barricades to prevent elephants from venturing out of forest areas. Forest area is diminishing while the number of wild animals is going up, leading to a higher number of conflict cases. Below average rainfall has led to lesser availability of food and water inside the forest, leading to more animals venturing out," said Khandre.

The two recent cases of human-elephant conflicts include the death of sharpshooter Venkatesh who was trampled by a tusker in Hassan last week and a forest watcher Girish who was killed in an elephant attack in Madikeri on Tuesday. Girish was part of the Rapid Response Team (RRT) assigned to drive elephants away from a coffee estate.

The monthly human-elephant conflict data by the department also shows that the number of deaths is higher in July and August months. Out of 148 deaths over the last five years, 44 deaths happened in July and August.

Khandre also expressed deep condolences over the death of a seven-year-old boy Charan Naik near Heggada Deva Fort in Nagarhole zone on Monday in human-tiger conflict and informed that an operation to catch the tiger has started. **— BMB**

IISc, RIM analyse suggestions by Brand Bengaluru

The Congress government had planned the Brand Bengaluru initiative to solicit public ideas to shape the city's growth, including a cutting-edge transport system and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure. Academic partners have now presented their analysis of citizen feedback, revealing a strong emphasis on sustainability and liveability in the city's development. Most of the recommendations that have come out are focused on increasing the use of public transport and encouraging active movement in the city, with sustainability and liveability as the key terms to be associated with Brand Bengaluru.

In June 2023, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) embarked on a mission to collect citizens' feedback to inform urban planning and citizen-centric policies. An online portal was set up to gather comments and suggestions across four categories: pedestrians, mass rapid transport (including buses and the metro), cyclists, and other challenges. The responses were then collected and analysed by two esteemed academic institutions, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Ramaiah Institute of Management (RIM), who were nominated as academic partners for the mobility vertical.

"Citizens expressed a strong desire for improved safety measures to enhance pedestrian experiences. Key recommendations included the implementation of crosswalks, pedestrian crossing signages, foot-over bridges, and signals with extended pedestrian crossing times. Maintenance of footpaths through the repair of broken sections, garbage clearance, and closing of open drains. Citizens also highlighted the need for uniform, well-segregated footpaths, with special provisions for the safe and comfortable movement of Persons with Disabilities (PwD) and senior citizens.

The public expressed a keen interest in shared bicycle services and rental options, particularly near congested streets. Secured and designated cycle parking facilities, especially in community areas, was another highlight," report submitted to BBMP by academic partners.

Considering the suggestions made by citizens with regard to buses and metro, academic partners have said that interventions need to be developed to increase the modal share of public transport. "While there are parking facilities provided at metro stations, bicycle parking in core areas of the city and other personal vehicles on the peripherals. Since providing feeder services is not a profitable endeavour for BMTC cost-sharing policies, BMTC and BMRCL might make it more profitable," the report suggests, among many others. On a policy level, academic partners have said that the BMLTA bill passed by the KLA in December 2022 needs to come into action immediately, among other interventions.

"Operationalising BMLTA will assist in developing plans (Comprehensive Mobility Plans, City Mobility Investment Plans, and Annual Implementation Plans) or rules that would encourage much-needed communication and information sharing as well as coordination amongst various stakeholder departments," the report says. **— BMB**

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MY HEART'S RACING

Psychiatrist explains neuroscience and physiology of fear

Heart in your throat. Butterflies in your stomach. Bad gut feeling. These are all phrases many people use to describe fear and anxiety. You have likely felt anxiety inside your chest or stomach, and your brain usually doesn't hurt when you're scared. Many cultures tie cowardice and bravery more to the heart or the guts than to the brain.

But science has traditionally seen the brain as the birthplace and processing site of fear and anxiety. Then why and how do you feel these emotions in other parts of your body?

I am a psychiatrist and neuroscientist who researches and treats fear and anxiety. In my book "Afraid," I explain how fear works in the brain and the body and what too much anxiety does to the body. Research confirms that while emotions do originate in your brain, it's your body that carries out the orders.

Fear and the brain

While your brain evolved to save you from a falling rock or speeding predator, the anxieties of modern life are often a lot more abstract. Fifty-thousand years ago, being rejected by your tribe could mean death, but not doing a great job on a public speech at school or at work doesn't have the same consequences. Your brain, however, might not know the difference.

There are a few key areas of the brain that are heavily involved in processing fear.

When you perceive something as dangerous, whether it's a gun pointed at you or a group of people looking unhappily at you, these sensory inputs are first relayed to the amygdala. This small, almond-shaped area of the brain located near your ears detects salience, or the emotional relevance of a situation and how to react to it. When you see something, it determines whether you should eat it, attack it, run away from it or have sex with it.

Threat detection is a vital part of this process, and it has to be fast. Early humans did not have much time to think when a lion was lunging toward them. They had to act quickly. For this reason, the amygdala evolved to bypass brain areas involved in logical thinking and can directly engage physical responses. For example, seeing an angry face on a computer screen can immediately trigger a detectable response from the amygdala without the viewer even being aware of this reaction.

The hippocampus is near and tightly connected to the amygdala. It's involved in memorizing what is safe and what is dangerous, especially in relation to the environment – it puts fear in context. For example, seeing an angry lion in the zoo and in the Sahara both trigger a fear response in the amygdala. But the hippocampus steps in and blocks this response when you're at the zoo because you aren't in danger.

The prefrontal cortex, located above your eyes, is mostly involved in the cognitive and social aspects of fear processing. For example, you might be scared of a snake until you read a sign that the snake is nonpoisonous or the owner tells you it's their friendly pet.

Although the prefrontal cortex is usually seen as the part of the brain that regulates emotions, it can also teach you fear based on your social environment. For example, you might feel neutral about a meeting with your boss but immediately feel nervous when a colleague tells you about rumors of layoffs. Many prejudices like racism are rooted in learning fear through tribalism.

Fear and the rest of the body

If your brain decides that a fear response is justified in a particular situation, it activates a cascade of neuronal and hormonal pathways to prepare you for immediate action. Some of the fight-or-flight response – like heightened attention and threat detection – takes place in the brain. But the body is where most of the action happens.

Several pathways prepare different body systems for intense physical action. The motor cortex of the brain sends rapid signals to your muscles to prepare them for quick and forceful movements. These include muscles in the chest and stomach that help protect vital organs in those areas. That might contribute to a feeling of tightness in your chest and stomach in stressful conditions.

The sympathetic nervous system is the gas pedal that speeds up the systems involved in fight or flight. Sympathetic neurons are spread throughout the body and are especially dense in places like the heart, lungs and intestines. These neurons trigger the adrenal gland to release hormones like adrenaline that travel through the blood to reach those organs and increase the rate at which they undergo the fear response.

To assure sufficient blood supply to your muscles when they're in high demand, signals from the sympathetic nervous system increase the rate your heart beats and the force with which it contracts. You feel both increased heart rate and contraction force in your chest, which is why you may connect the feeling of intense emotions to your heart.

In your lungs, signals from the sympathetic nervous system dilate airways and often increase your breathing rate and depth. Sometimes this results in a feeling of shortness of breath.

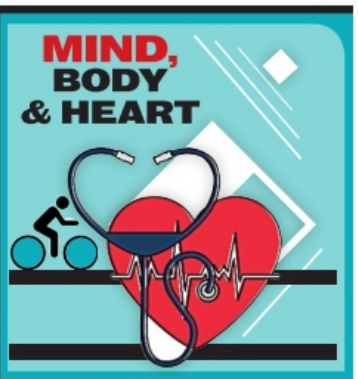
As digestion is the last priority during a fight-or-flight situation, sympathetic activation slows down your gut and reduces blood flow to your stomach to save oxygen and nutrients for more vital organs like the heart and the brain. These changes to your gastrointestinal system can be perceived as the discomfort linked to fear and anxiety.

It all goes back to the brain

All bodily sensations, including those visceral feelings from your chest and stomach, are relayed back to the brain through the pathways via the spinal cord. Your already anxious and highly alert brain then processes these signals at both conscious and unconscious levels. The insula is a part of the brain specifically involved in conscious awareness of your emotions, pain and bodily sensations. The prefrontal cortex also engages in self-awareness, especially by labeling and naming these physical sensations, like feeling tightness or pain in your stomach, and attributing cognitive value to them, like "this is fine and will go away" or "this is terrible and I am dying." These physical sensations can sometimes create a loop of increasing anxiety as they make the brain feel more scared of the situation because of the turmoil it senses in the body.

Although the feelings of fear and anxiety start in your brain, you also feel them in your body because your brain alters your bodily functions. Emotions take place in both your body and your brain, but you become aware of their existence with your brain. As the rapper Eminem recounted in his song "Lose Yourself," the reason his palms were sweaty, his knees weak and his arms heavy was because his brain was nervous.

Arash Javanbakht, Wayne State University, for The Conversation



All you need to know about...

Sun-beaten skin

Leathery complexions
Scientists have finally decoded why farmers, road crews and others who work long hours outdoors, or someone who spends too much time in tanning booths get the "leathery" complexions.

UV radiation changes structure of skin
When skin absorbs more ultra violet (UV) radiation, the collagen fibres in it become more tightly packed together, leading to increased stiffness and tissue that is harder to break, according to the research from Binghamton University. The study, published in the Journal of the Mechanical Behavior of Biomedical Materials, explored how UV radiation can alter the microstructure of human skin.

Collagen connection
They found that collagen, the fibrous protein that binds together tissue, tendon, cartilage and bone throughout our bodies get particularly affected. This new study builds on research that focused on the outer stratum corneum, the top layer of skin. In the new study, the team compared full-thickness skin samples before and after various levels of UV exposure.

Not stretchy enough
One way to characterise the material characteristics of skin is by conducting a mechanical stretch test on it. If it stretches very easily, it's relatively compliant, but if it's much harder to stretch it, you can characterise it as much stiffer. My experiment was to see what the isolated effects of UV light would be and compare it with a scenario where a skin is not exposed to UV light," said lead researcher Abraham Ittycheri, at the varsity. "We don't want to put a fear factor in here saying 'don't go out in the sun'. But extended periods of time under UV light can toughen up your skin as well as lead to a higher risk of carcinogenic problems," he added. —IANS

Pedestrians' path cut short

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

closed due to staffing constraints. Upon securing the approval to hire Home Guards, we anticipate these subways can be reopened for public use."

For citizens, this is not a good enough reason. Tech professional Rajesh R remarks, "The plight of pedestrians in the city clearly indicates they are not on the authorities' priority list."

He said that just in the recent past, skywalks were sparse along the Outer Ring Road, necessitating treacherous crossings of up to 10 lanes, including service roads. "While skywalks were introduced to alleviate this, the absence of elevators or escalators on these facilities have rendered them less accessible to many. A similar predicament unfolded at Hebbal, where pedestrian fatalities occurred due to the absence of a skywalk. Eventually, a skywalk was constructed, but its utilisation remains limited."

Rajesh gives an illustration to indicate how skywalks with good facilities are in full use.

"A skywalk near Manyata Tech Park, equipped with an escalator, witnesses high usage. However, subways near Majestic brim with shops, which impedes pedestrian movement. The authorities must prioritise pedestrians' needs, ensure well-lit and secure passages, and encourage usage of such infrastructure. A collaborative effort will undoubtedly motivate us to embrace these facilities wholeheartedly," Rajesh says.

No maintenance

Central areas of Bengaluru have a greater number of pedestrian underpasses than skywalks. However, the subpar maintenance has raised concerns about the future of these underpasses.

For instance, one of the oldest subways in the city, located at KR Market, used to connect the bus bay to KR Market and the other side of Victoria Hospital Road.

Over the years, this subway fell into disuse due to neglect. Subsequently, it underwent renovation, and police officers were stationed to ensure pedestrians used the subway instead of crossing the road. Unfortunately, it has now returned to its previous state, leaving pedestrians demanding better maintenance.

Similarly, there are two subways linking Kempegowda Bus Stand in Majestic to the old Sangam Theatre side and the railway station. Both of these subways have been taken over by shops, leaving minimal space for pedestrians. Jyoti Gowda, a student at SJP, expressed, "The road median in front of our college has elevated concrete medians to discourage jaywalking.

Consequently, we are compelled to use the subways. However, these subways suffer from inadequate maintenance and poor lighting, causing us to prefer crossing the road and jumping medians instead. Ideally, it should be the other way around."

Transformer goes underground

In a first in country, BESCOM sets up operates underground centre at Malleshwaram

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Karnataka has become the pioneer in establishing the first underground transformer station in the country. Built at a cost of Rs 1.97 crore, the system ensures footpaths remain clear of transformers, thereby putting safety of pedestrians first.

BESCOM established the first Underground Distribution Transformer Centre at Malleshwaram, 15th Cross. The centre is located directly below the footpath. The centre houses a 500Kva transformer with eight-way solid-state RMU, 11KV underground cables, LT underground cables and an 800 Amps five-way distribution panel. All the electrical equipment is protected from climatic factors by an underground chamber.

The civil work was undertaken by BBMP and the electrical work was taken up by BESCOM. The project commenced on May 20, 2022 and was completed on May 19, 2023.

Despite the convenience and innovation, an underground transformer can pose a grave danger to housing and pedestrians without the right safety measures. BESCOM officials ensure that the structure is completely safe. "We have used the dry-type transformer instead of oil transformer. In a conventional transformer, the winding is immersed in oil while the dry transformer is air-cooled.

In the case of water seepage, there is a mechanism for dewatering it. The chamber is also temperature controlled, if the temperature increases beyond safety limits, the automatic mechanism will switch on the inlet and outlet of air to cool the chamber. Humidity is also monitored and the air mechanism will be triggered. All switch gears are automated from a control room," said a senior BESCOM official.

While the chamber will remain unmanned, it can be accessed by two points in case of emergencies.

Due to the size of the transformer, as of now the project is limited to areas with footpaths that are at least 5 m wide.

The chamber housing the transformer is made of a 0.5m thick concrete wall with steel enforcement. While the chamber is located 4m below the ground, the transformers are located 10 feet below the ground. The project was undertaken by Bengaluru-based company Amport India Pvt Ltd that carried out all the work and design was provided by Tata Consultancy Engineers.

BESCOM officials note that the centre has been charged for the past one month and no accidents have been reported. BESCOM also plans to hold a field report of all hazardous locations and provide a proposal for replacement with this unique system.

Officials say that there were several challenges while constructing the chamber. "While constructing it, we faced a lot of issues with loose soil. There were water pipes, old cables, sanitary pipes, a lot of BSNL cables, OFC cables. They all had to be rerouted from the excavation site," an official said.

Officials also told BM that the charging of the transformer was delayed a bit due to the time involved in receiving made-to-order equipment. However, all equipment was completely made in India.

BESCOM saves two trees

During the course of the project, BESCOM was able to avert damage to two trees as well. While excavating a pit, two big trees were about to fall, but using cranes the trees were protected for two weeks until the concrete wall was filled up.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, AMEER MOHAMED SHAHOOR, R/a#5, Patel Lourde Swamy Lyt, T.C.Palya, KR Puram, Bangalore-36, I, have changed my name to, AMEER MOHAMED SHAHOOR MUTHUKUR, Vide affidavit, dated 2/09/2023 Sworn before Notary: MEER Hassan Bangalore

I, AFNA SALAM NIHAZ, D/o Mohammed Haneefa Abdul Salam, R/o Flat No. 004, Block G, Adithya Frondoso, Sorahunase Road, Sorahunise Bengaluru-560087, have changed my name as AFNA SALAM, vide affidavit dated 05.09.2023, sworn before notary Y.V. Shankar, Bengaluru.

I, Al Kauser R W/o Chand Pasha R/o 10/4 Brawdshah Street Shivaji Nagar, B'lore-560001 have changed my name to Al Kauser for all purposes.

I Satishkumar S/O, Rachappa R/o No.15/6, 4th Cross, 1st Main, Deepanjali Nagara, Bangalore -560026 Karnataka India have changed my name to R Satish Kumar.

" I , Sudha J Achar W/O Jayakeerthi Achar residing at No 1402 Amogh VCN 32/1 , 3rd Main 3rd cross BEML layout Basaveshwarnagara Bengaluru 560079 , have changed my name to Sudha Achar , Affidavit Dt 01/09/2023 Notary Aruna V , Bengaluru"

I, VISHNU PAVITHRAN VIJAYAKUMARI D/o Pavithran R/o No.22, RR Home, 2nd cross, 3rd main, Bharathi layout, S G Palya, Bengaluru 560029 have changed my name to RITHU BHASKAARI affidavit Dt.05/09/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Ravindra Kripashankar Shrivastava S/O, Kripashankar R/o Ht-213,ittina Neela Apts,near Gold Coins Club,andhapura,bangalore South,electronic City,bangalore,560100 have changed my name to Ravindra Shrivastava.

I, Darvin Babu S/o John Son R/o 323, Nanjundappa Bldg, Kamadhenu Street, 3rd cross, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru 560016 have changed my name to DARWIN BABU affidavit Dt.05/09/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Sudha J Achar W/o Jayakeerthi Achar R/o #1402, Amogh Vcn 32/1, 3rd Main, 3rd Cross, Beml Layout Basavesh - waranagar, B'luru- 560079, have changed my name to Sudha Achar for all purposes.

I, Rida Zakir D/o Syed Zafrulla Zakir R/o 2080, GF, East End A Main Road , Jayanagar 9th Block B'lore-560069 have changed my name to Syeda Rida Zakir.

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India or Bharat? President's G20 invitation sparks row

President of Bharat's dinner invite to leaders creates name-change furore

Students apply final touches to portraits of the G20 leaders, in Mumbai

#New Delhi

Indian President Droupadi Murmu's reference to herself as the "President of Bharat" in a dinner invitation, instead of "President of India", sparked controversy on Tuesday, with critics saying the name of the country is being distorted.

Murmu is hosting a reception for G20 leaders during the group's summit on Saturday and invitations were sent from her office.

India is also called Bharat, Bharata, Hindustan - its pre-colonial names - in Indian languages and these are used interchangeably by the public and officially. High offices in the country have typically stuck to titles such as President of India, Prime Minister of India and Chief Justice of India while communicating in English.

Over the years though, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government has been changing colonial names to, what it says, help India move past a mentality of slavery. Supporters of the name change in the invitation said British colonial rulers had coined the name India to overshadow Bharat and forge a British legacy.

"Our country's name is Bharat and there should be no doubt about it," said Rajeev Chandrasekhar, a federal deputy minister.

Hindu groups linked to BJP said the G20 summit provided the best opportunity to shed India's colonial baggage.

Opposition leaders were, however, critical of the change, with some saying it aimed to eclipse their two-month-old political alliance which is also called "INDIA".

"We all say 'Bharat', what is new in this? But the name 'India' is known to the world...What happened suddenly that the government had to change the name of the country?" said Mamata Banerjee, a top opposition leader.

Shashi Tharoor of the opposition Congress party posted on X, previously known as Twitter, "I hope the government will not be so foolish as to completely dispense with India, which has incalculable brand value built up over centuries."

The change to "President of Bharat" comes less than two months after opposition parties formed the "INDIA" alliance to challenge BJP in national elections next year.

INDIA, they said, stands for Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance.

Political analysts said it was a clever coinage to take on the BJP's nationalist platform.

India's president is a non-party executive with only ceremonial powers. She is traditionally backed and elected by the party in power.

An official at the president's office said they didn't want to comment on the issue when asked by Reuters. **REUTERS**

Assessment of protests done

The Delhi Police on Tuesday said it has done a comprehensive assessment of protests held by various international and local groups in other nations during previous G20 summits as part of security arrangements for the prestigious event to be held later this week.

The G20 Leaders Summit will be held from September 9-10 at a newly built international convention and exhibition centre — Bharat Mandapam — at Pragati Maidan here.

Talking to PTI video, Special Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Deependra Pathak said adequate arrangements have been made to ensure that Delhiites do not face any kind of inconvenience during the G20 summit. **PTI**

IN CINEMAS TOMORROW
SHAH RUKH KHAN
NAYANTHARA
VIJAY SETHUPATHI
JAWAN
BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW
PVR - INOX CINEMAS {REX | NEXUS | ORION | VAISHNAVI | VEGA CITY | REGALIA | MARKETCITY | BHARTIYA | GT | AURA | SPIRIT | VR | UPTOWN | GLOBAL | FALCON CITY | MANTRI | CENTRAL | GARUDA | YELAHANKA | SWAGATH | BROOKFIELD | LIDO | NEXUS NEIGHBOURHOOD | SBR | RMZ | TUMKUR S MALL | MYSORE GARUDA - NEXUS - SATYAM - CENTRO | MANGALORE NEXUS | MANIPAL} | CINEPOLIS CINEMAS {MEENAKSHI | ETA | ORION EAST | LULU | SJR | MANGALORE} | GOPALAN CINEMAS {ARCADE | LEGACY | GRAND | SIGNATURE | INNOVATION} | INNOVATIVE {MARATHHALLI} | KINO CINEMA {SEEGEHALLI} | CINEPHILE {HSR LAYOUT} | ROCKLINE {JALAHALLI} | MUKTA A2 CINEMAS {UTTARAHALLI} | MIRAJ CINEMAS {SUNKADAKATTE} | DRC CINEMAS {MYSORE} | VISION CINEMAS {MYSORE} | BHARATH CINEMAS {MANGALORE | MANIPAL | KUNDAPUR | PADUBIDRE | PUTTUR | SHIMOGA} | CINE GALAXY {SURATKAL} | MOVIE TIME {DAVANGERE | BELLARY} | SANTHOSH THEATRE {K.G.ROAD} | ABHINAY {K.G.ROAD} | URVASHI THEATRE {BANGALORE} | MUKUNDA THEATRE {MARUTI SEVANAGAR} | SAMPIGE THEATRE {MALLESHWARAM} | CAUVERY THEATRE {SANKEY ROAD} | VEERESH THEATRE {MAGADI ROAD} | SWAGATH SHANKARNAG {M.G.ROAD} | SWAGATH POORNIMA {J.C.ROAD} | AMRUTH THEATRE {LINGARAJPURAM} | HMT THEATRE {JALAHALLI} | RENUKA PRASANNA THEATRE {J. P. NAGAR} | RAVI THEATRE {EEGIPURA} | VICTORY CINEMAS {KAMAKSHIPALYA} | VAIBHAV {SANJAYNAGAR} | BALAJI {TAVAREKERE} | LAKSHMI {TAVAREKERE} | SRINIVASA {S.G. PALYA} | ARUNA {SRIRAMPURA} | TULASI {MARATHHALLI} | VENKATESHWARA {KENGERI} | SRINIVASA {GOWDANAPALYA} | ESHWARI {KATTRIGUPPE} | RAVI {EJIPURA} | BALAJI {DOMMASANDRA} | LAKSHMI {GOTTIGERE} | ROBIN {KENGERI} | VAJRESHWARI {ULLALA} | PRUTHVI {NAGAWARA} | BALAJI {VANNARPET} | TIRUMALA {AGARA} | MANASA {KONANKUNTE} | SANDHYA {MADIWALA} | BRUNDA {HONGASANDRA} | MARUTI {RAJGOPALNAGAR} | RAJ MURALI {KODIGEHALLI} | SRINIVASA {KADUGUDI} | VINAYAKA {HARINAGAR} | VINAYAKA {MYSORE ROAD} | VIJAYALAKSHMI {GARUDACHARPALYA} | RADHAKRISHNA {R.T. NAGAR} | PUSHPANJALI {B.N. PURA} | VENKATESHWARA {K.R. PURAM} | VENKATESHWARA {GOLARHATTI} | V.R.CINEMAS {MALLATHAHALLI} | KRISHNA {BOMMANAHALLI} | SIDDHALINGESHWARA {J.P. NAGAR} | GOVARDHAN {YESHWANTHPUR} | CHANDRODAYA {VIDYAPEETA CIRCLE} | ANJAN {MAGADI RD} | VAINIDHI {SINGAPURAR} | BALAJI {MAGADI} | BENAKA {MALUR} | VANI {KANAKAPURA} | SHARADA {KOLAR} | JAI BHARAT {TUMKUR} | TRIMURTHY {TIPTUR} | ADARSHA {CHINTAMANI} | VARADARAJA {MULBAGILU} | SANGAM {MYSORE} | TIBBADEVI | WOODLAND | BALAJI DELUXE | JAYALAKSHMI {MANDYA} | SHREE GURU {HASSAN} | BALAJI {CHANNARAYAPATNA} | KRISHNA {KOLLEGALA} | MARUTI {BELLUR CROSS} | SLN {HOLENARSIPURA} | LAL BAHADUR {PANDAVAPURA} | MALLIKARJUNA {SHIMOGA} | MANJUNATHA | SRILEKHA {CHIKMAGALUR} | SATYA {BHADRAVATHI} | MALTHESH {SHIKARIPURA} | VIJAYALAKSHMI {KADUR} | VINAYAKA {TARIKERE} | SP CINEMAS {MANGALORE} | ROOPAVANI | KALPANA {UDUPI} | PLANET {KARKALA} | SHANKAR {BAINDUR} | VASANTHA {DAVANGERE} | BASAVESHWARA {CHITRADURGA} | RAGHAVENDRA {BELLARY} | NATRAJ | SARASWATHI {HOSPET} | JYOTHI {HOSADURGA}.
FARNAZ

Aditya L1 performs 2nd earth-bound manoeuvre

 # Bengaluru

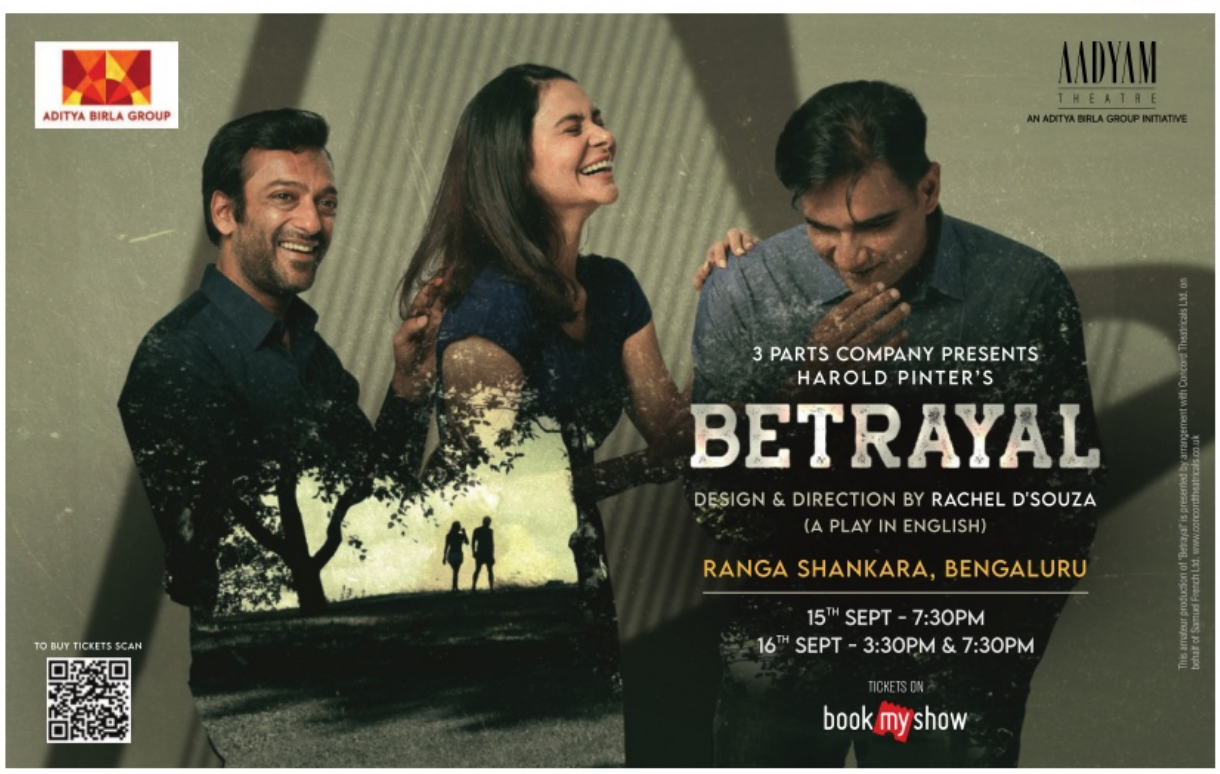
Aditya-L1 spacecraft, India's first solar mission, has successfully performed the second earth-bound manoeuvre, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) said on Tuesday.

"Aditya-L1 Mission: The second Earth-bound maneuver (EBN#2) is performed successfully from ISTRAC, Bengaluru. ISTRAC/ISRO's ground stations at Mauritius, Bengaluru and Port Blair tracked the satellite during this operation. The new orbit attained is 282 km x 40225 km," ISRO said in a post on 'X' in the early hours of Tuesday.

"The next manoeuvre (EBN#3) is scheduled for September 10, around 02:30 Hrs. IST," ISRO added.

After the successful landing of Chandrayaan-3 near the South pole of the moon, the ISRO launched the country's maiden solar mission -- Aditya-L1 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on Saturday.

It carried seven payloads to study the sun, four of which will observe the light from the sun and the other three will measure in-situ parameters of the plasma and magnetic fields. Aditya-L1 will be placed in a halo orbit around Lagrangian Point 1 (or L1), which is 1.5 million km away from the Earth in the Sun's direction. It is expected to cover the distance in four months **ANI**



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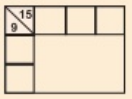
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

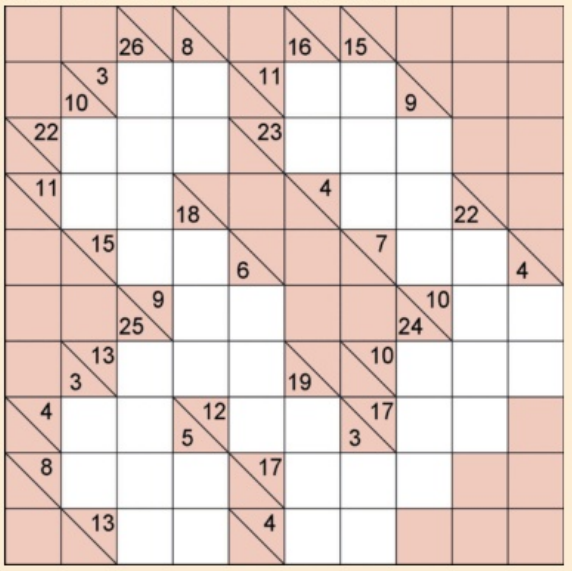
Mary and Sue both rode their bikes from point A to point B. Mary rode half the distance at 18 km/h and the balance at 6 km/h. Sue rode half the time at 18 km/h and the balance at 6 km/h. Sue's time for the trip was __?% of Mary's time for the trip?

Kakuro

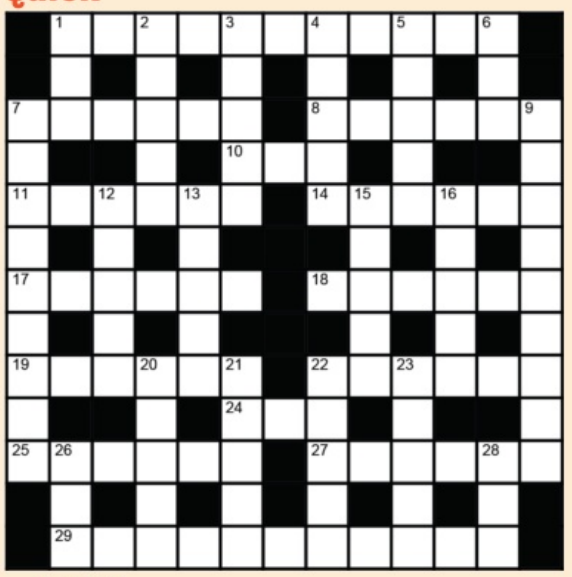
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Running, managing or directing (11)
7 Sibling's son (6)
8 Rummage for food (6)
10 Decimal point (3)
11 Take or fill up space or time (6)
14 Nun (6)
17 Imperial colour (6)
18 Useless or vain (6)
19 Constellation : The bull (6)
22 Avenue or road (6)
24 Israel's __ Aviv (3)
25 Leave ___ : leave unfinished? (6)
27 Harden, turn into bone (6)
29 Act wealthy, in a manner of speaking? (3,2,3,3)

DOWN

1 Fidel's friend Guevara (3)
2 India's first P.M. (5)
3 Boisterous (5)
4 Boosts or hoists (5)
5 King of Libya from 1950 to 1969 (5)
6 Wisecrack (3)
7 Rice noodle delicacy of Karnataka (4,5)
9 Sincerely (9)
12 Second largest of Greek Ionian islands (5)
13 Indian rice dish (5)
15 Eskimo (5)
16 On two occasions (5)
20 A perch for chickens (5)
21 Severe (5)
22 Laziness (5)
23 Completely destroyed (5)
26 Forty winks (3)
28 Soft pear-shaped fruit (3)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Z EQUALS N

ZD EYA FK FZCIFHYGTC NZHFT FH GACYXK DNH.

Linemaro

Were you a girl guide? You have tied my heart in a knot

Mindchow

There is no passion to be found playing small – in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living

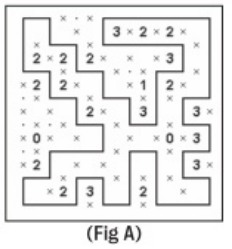
Joke of the day

I am reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down

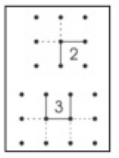
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

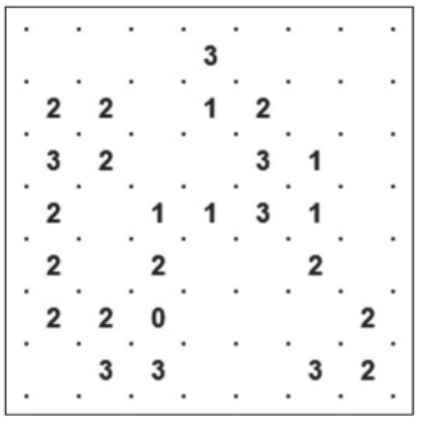


(Fig B) Not Allowed

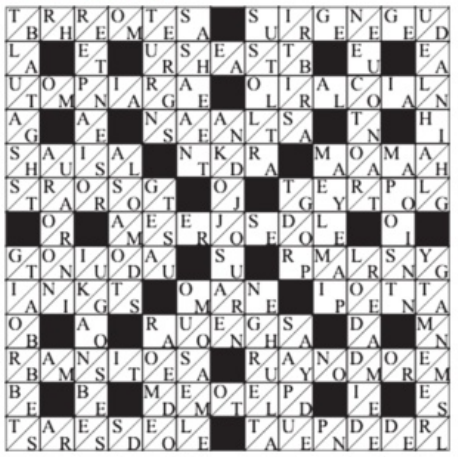
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



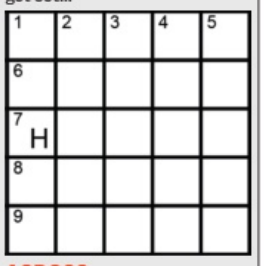
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 R rear; 6 Medea;
7 So hob; 8 A be at;
9 Robed

DOWN

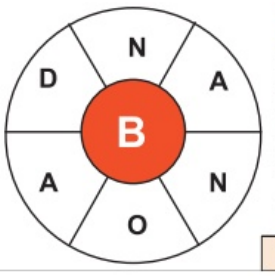
1 Haber; 2 Boa do;
3 Barer; 4 Toe me;
5 Dears

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?

1, 101, 15, 4, 29, –93, 43, –190, ?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; **02** Good; **03** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

1					9		3	
	2			5				7
	3	6				8		
			2	8		6		1
		4				9		
7		1		4	5			
		2				7	6	
3				6			5	
	7		3					4

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

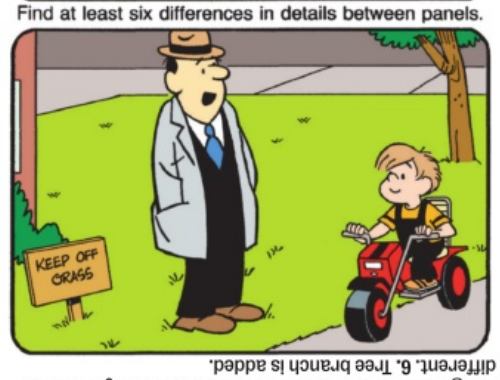
Easy = 5
2 4 8 9

Medium = 5
1 3 7 8

Hard = 18
2 6 9 6

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



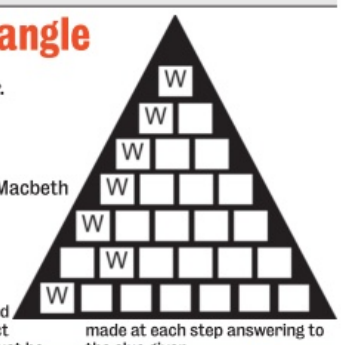
Differences: 1. Wheel is thinner. 2. Label is missing. 3. Sign is different. 4. Backrest is added. 5. Boy's hair is different. 6. Tree branch is added.

Riddler

Can you make this sentence into a phrase by only adding punctuation? You may not add, subtract, or rearrange the words. Good luck. that that is is that that is not is not is that it it is

Alpha triangle

1 Compass point
2 West Indies, abbr.
3 Clever one
4 Accompanying
5 Card game
6 Change over
7 Three sisters of Macbeth



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

I'VE DECIDED TO TAKE KARATE LESSONS SO I CAN PROTECT MYSELF
??
WHO IN THE WORLD DO YOU THINK YOU NEED PROTECTION FROM?!
6-16
SEE IF THEY GIVE A DISCOUNT IF TWO SIGN UP!
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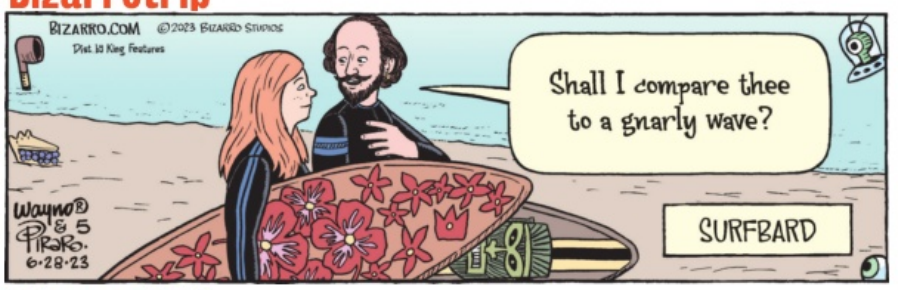
Bizarrotrip


BIZARRO.COM ©2023 BIZARRO STUDIOS
Dist. by King Features
Shall I compare thee to a gnarly wave?
SURFBARD
Wayno & Piraro 6-28-23

Diamond Lil

SOME LADY CALLED ME A DONKEY TODAY
BUT I TURNED THE OTHER CHEEK, AND COMPLIMENTED HER
ON HER PERCEPTIVENESS?
©2023 creators.com 6/28
www.creators.com

Hart of the city

I THINK THINGS ARE GONNA GET HARDER IN SCHOOL NEXT YEAR.
I HEARD THEY'RE GONNA START INTRODUCING THE ALPHABET INTO MATH! SAY IT ISN'T SO!
UNFORTUNATELY, IT IS SO. JUST WAIT TILL YOU GET TO IMAGINARY NUMBERS!
THE HORROR!!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2023 ABIGAIL'S MCNEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

APPARENTLY THEY'RE RUNNING A LITTLE LATE, SKIP... BUT MASON SHOULD BE HERE SOON!
DO YOU THINK HE'LL WANT TO TALK WITH ME ABOUT HIS CAREER?
GRAND REOPENING LISA'S STORY
VALENTINE
YOU'VE NEVER MET A MOVIE ACTOR, HAVE YOU, SKIP?
JUST TRY TO STOP HIM FROM TALKING ABOUT HIMSELF!
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
6-24

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may feel good, thanks to domestic harmony that brings you happiness. You may meet an influential person to gain some benefits on the work front. Your job performance may excel, and you could anticipate rewards such as promotions. Disputes related to inherited property may also be likely to settle down.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may enjoy good health and be able to focus on your goals. Your performance at work may excel, earning the approval of your boss who might entrust you with important responsibilities. There's also a chance of receiving positive news regarding a legal matter. You are likely to maintain control over your opponents and business rivals.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may be inclined to seek knowledge and understand the value of intellectual assets. Sometimes, you may successfully control your short temper, which can contribute to the smooth execution of your tasks. There may be opportunities for stable earnings, providing you with a sense of comfort in your work. It is advisable to exercise caution before making new investments in assets. You are likely to spend money on your loved ones, and lovebirds may cherish happy moments together.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel dissatisfied and experience a sense of detachment from your responsibilities, which could lead to confusion. You might engage in hypothetical planning for your projects. However, it is advisable to be practical in your approach to ensure timely completion. Additionally, consider taking care of your parents. If you're planning to migrate somewhere, it is recommended to postpone it for a few days.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today is a positive day for you; you may achieve success through your hard work on both the professional and domestic fronts. You may have good focus and complete your work on time, which can boost your self-confidence. Additionally, you can expect a work-related short trip, which may prove beneficial in the near future for expanding your network.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may be busy with domestic issues and may spend money on buying artifacts or household items. It is advised to control spending on unnecessary items, as it may attract negative energy into the house. You are also advised to be mindful of speaking harshly to the people around you.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may feel comfortable after a messy situation. Your vitality may help you implement some difficult decisions in your parental business, which could lead to the growth of your family business. You may also help needy people around you, which could increase your social respect. Students might gain clarity in choosing their career options.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may face health issues that could make you impatient. You are advised to control your short-tempered nature. You may spend your hard-earned money on buying worthless items, which could affect your savings. Lovebirds are advised to avoid discussions on insignificant topics, as they may lead to disagreements or even a breakup.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may meet an influential person who can assist you in advancing your work. Your network will strengthen with their support. You should prepare yourself to implement new ideas into your work or business. You are planning to invest more capital in your business, which may yield financial gains in the near future. In terms of your domestic life, you will be occupied with family gatherings and social events.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, your mother's health may be good. You may enjoy your work and receive rewards for your hard work. Your social respect may increase now. Overworking your mind may make you tired, and due to your workload, you may not be able to attend a family event.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may be satisfied with your work. You may plan a short work-related trip. You may also visit a religious place to maintain your inner peace. Your mentors may guide you in the right direction, giving you clarity regarding your goals.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may feel dull and may experience some health issues. It is advised to postpone making investments in the business and avoid starting a new venture. You are likely to face losses in the business, and your gains may turn into losses.

KIDZONE

Siya Sharath, 6 Years, Brigade School

Moinuddin, 6 Years, Hrha English School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
Let d = distance from A to B
t(M) = time Mary rode the bicycle
t(S) = time Sue rode the bicycle
18t(S)/2 + 6t(S)/2 = d
12t(S) = d
½d/18 + ½d/6 = t(M)
d/36 + d/12 = t(M)
d/9 = t(M)
12t(S)/9 = t(M)
t(S) / t(M) = 9/12 = 75%

BULL'S EYE
ABANDON, band, bond

FAST FIVE

R	A	R	E	R
E	D	E	M	A
H	O	B	O	S
A	B	A	T	E
B	O	R	E	D

STRIKE OUT

T	A	S	S	E	L	T	E	N	D	E	R			
E		E												
B	A	S	T	E	S	R	A	N	D	O	M			
B	A	R	U	N	G	S	A	M						
I	N	K	S	O	R	E	I	O	T	A				
G	O	U	D	A		U	P	A	L	S	Y			
R		A	E	R	O	S	O	L	I					
T	A	R	O	T		T	Y	R	O	L				
H	A	I	L		N	D	A		M	A	M	A		
G	A	S		S	E	A	L	S		T		I		
U	M	P	I	R	E		O	I	L	C	A	N		
A		E		R	H	E	T	T		E		E		
T	H	R	O	E	S		S	I	G	N	E	D		

QUICK

C	O	N	T	R	O	L	L	I	N	G				
O		E												
N	E	P	H	E	W		F	O	R	A	G	E		
C		R		D	O	T		I			A			
O	C	C	U	P	Y		S	I	S	T	E	R		
L		O		I		D		A						
U	N	D	O	N	E		O	S	S	I	F	Y		
T		O		T	E	L		A			L			
T	A	U	R	U	S		S	T	R	E	T			
U		F		A		I		C			S			
P	U	R	P	L	E		F	U	T	I	L	E		
O		I				W		N			N			
L		O		I							W			
N	O	T	H	E	D	O	G							
P	U	T	O	N										

MENSA PUZZLE
5?: there are two alternate sequences: +14, -97

RIDDLER
That that is, is. That that is not, is not. Is that it? It is.

QUOTE UNCODE
No war is inevitable until it breaks out.

SUDOKU

1	4	7	8	2	9	5	3	6
5	3	6	4	7	1	8	9	2
8	2	9	6	5	3	4	1	7
9	5	3	2	8	7	6	4	1
2	8	4	1	3	6	9	7	5
4	9	2	5	1	8	7	6	3
7	6	1	9	4	5	3	2	8
3	1	8	7	6	4	2	5	9
6	7	5	3	9	2	1	8	4

ALPHA TRIANGLE
Easy
8 + 2 - 9 + 4 = 5
Medium
3 - 7 + 1 + 8 = 5
Hard
6 / 2 + 9 + 6 = 18

GO FIGURE
W, Wi, Wit, With, Whist, Switch, Witches.

LOOP

KAKURO

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She new it

Kareena says she will try something new even if people remember her for older roles

Actor Kareena Kapoor Khan on Tuesday said she will continue to bring something new with every character, despite being remembered for her popular roles like Poo from "Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham" and Geet from "Jab We Met".

The two characters from the blockbuster movies -- released in 2001 and 2007 -- form a pivotal part of her filmography and the actor said she still finds it difficult to step outside the box.

"As an actor, you want to try and do something different every time. For me, it is difficult because I've been known for playing Poo and Geet... This thing has been fixed in people's minds. So, that has been a conscious effort that now I want to do different things...

"They don't think of the films that I've done in the past such as 'Dev', 'Chameli', and others. But I'm going to keep trying to do different things. I know that they will keep coming back to Poo and Geet," Kareena told reporters here at the trailer launch of "Jaane Jaan".

Citing the example of Vishal Bhardwaj's 2006 critically-acclaimed film, "Omkara", the 42-year-old actor said she has played intense roles in the past.

"I've done quite a few intense roles but you all remember only Poo and Geet. I feel very angry about it. Like, 'Omkara' was also intense," she recalled about starring in Bhardwaj's acclaimed adaptation of the Shakespearean tragedy "Othello" .

Kareena is set to make her OTT debut with "Jaane Jaan", filmmaker Sujoy Ghosh's Hindi language adaptation of popular Japanese novel "Devotion of Suspect X". —ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Message on love

Director SR Patil has been busy with preparations for the release of his latest Olave Mandara 2 that is likely to hit the screens on September 15.

"Olave Mandara 2 is a pure love story. We know of parents who do not like their children falling in love. They consider children falling in love as a crime or sin. I want to convey a message to society, especially to parents not to treat children as criminals if they fall in love. This movie also focuses on the importance of children informing or consulting with their parents when they are in love. The children should not make decisions in haste," said Patil.

Though it is titled Olave Mandara 2, the director made it clear that this movie is not a sequel to the 2011 film Olave Mandara. "I am a fan of the film Olave Mandara, but the scripts of both movies are different," the director said.

Sanath, who played the lead role in Kamarottu Checkpost, plays the lead in Olave Mandara 2. "It is my second movie. I want to thank all those who helped me realise the dream of becoming a hero. I thank the director for selecting a good script," said Sanath.

Pragna Bhat is paired opposite Sanath. Anupa Satheesh, Bhavya, Dingri Nagaraj, Madenora Manu, Shivananda Sindagi are the cast in this movie.

Trailer out

The team of Bhavapoorna organised a function to release the trailer of the movie recently. The movie is helmed by Chetan Mundadi who won a national award for his film Madipu. Prominent personalities of the Kannada film industry watched the trailer and appreciated director Mundadi. The shooting of the movie began in September 2022 and it is expected to be released next month.

"The film is about the aspirations of a middle-aged person in a village. There is another character – a youth – in the movie. He dreams of a bright future. Whether these people will realise their dreams is what the film is all about," said Mundadi, adding that the movie has emotion, comedy and other elements.

Prashanth Anjanappa, who bankrolled the movie, said he has been associated with Sandalwood for many years. "Bhavapoorna is my maiden movie as a producer. Mundadi has selected a good script for this movie and all the actors have acted well," said Anjanappa.

Ramesh Pandit plays the lead in this movie while Shailashree, Dharmendra Aras, Atharva Prakash are the cast in this movie.

Actors Ramesh Aravind, Srinagar Kitty, Umashree, Pooja Gandhi, Pramod Shetty, and Bhavana have watched the trailer and conveyed their best wishes to the team.

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SHASHWITHA RAI B 311 608
NEHA BHAT 334 623
SATISH SHANKAR K 335 640
ABHISHEK H PRABHU 359 635
UMASHANKARA 362 613
RAGHUNATH SATAPPA G 398 637
BHARGAV GOWDA B A 372 605
VARSHA SHIVAKUMAR P 377 606
PRATHAM D SHETTY 415 642
HARSHA TC 431 654
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VEDANTH RAI 424 635
SUHAS GOWDA D 441 643
SRUSHTI B CHOUDHARI 461 660
DEEKSHITH NAYAKA N 416 615
JAYANTH H S 447 642
BINDUSHREE 418 611
RAHUL NAIR N 444 635
RAHUL R CHULAKI 416 606
SHASHANK D S 437 614
CHANDRASHEKHAR S K 444 610
NANDAN A M 450 611
ROHINI 454 614
EESHA R MADDODI 445 602
PREKSHITH SHETTY 473 625
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